

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A semiconductor memory apparatus for storing data by accumulating charges in a capacitor, wherein

before performing a precharge for bringing the potential of a pair of bit lines to an intermediate potential by making a short circuit in the pair of bit lines, the potential of the bit line being charged to a higher level is previously lowered to a level within the range that prevents data written in a memory cell from being disappeared.

2. A semiconductor memory apparatus for storing data by accumulating charges in a capacitor, comprising:

a forced step-down circuit comprised of a first switching element having one end connected to a driving line on the high side, and a forced step-down capacitor and a second switching element arranged in parallel between the other end of the first switching element and a ground potential, wherein

the second switching element is brought into an on state in advance to hold the forced step-down capacitor at zero potential, and

before performing a precharge for bringing the potential of a pair of bit lines to an intermediate potential by making a short circuit in the pair of bit lines, the first switching element is then brought into an

on state and the potential of the driving line on the high side is previously lowered to a level within the range of preventing data written in a memory cell from being disappeared.